

# OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

DATE: FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2013  
TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: SCOTT H. NEAL, CITY MANAGER  
RE: FRIDAY REPORT FOR JUNE 14, 2013

## FRIDAY REPORT



- 1. Wooddale Avenue Striping** – The contractor is schedule to remove the pavement markings starting on Tuesday, June 18. Repainting of the roadway will occur later next week, weather permitting.
- 2. Residential Redevelopment Ordinance Update** – As part of its ongoing study of “Residential Redevelopment” of single-family homes in Edina, the Planning Commission held a public hearing June 12 on a proposed zoning ordinance amendment. There was a good turnout of residents who provided feedback on the draft ordinance. The Commission advised staff to make some revisions to the ordinance based on the feedback and their discussion. The Planning Commission will consider taking action on an updated draft ordinance at its next meeting on June 26. If the Planning Commission makes a recommendation, the City Council would then hold a public hearing and consider the ordinance on July 16.
- 3. Financing The Future** – We had a very good turnout (24) at our “Financing The Future” event June 13 at Braemar Clubhouse. This event included a wine tasting facilitated by the Edina Liquor staff. Our final event will be 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, at the Senior Center. This event is billed as “family friendly,” which means we are providing on-site child-care for residents who participate in the event.
- 4. Employee News** – Our new Redevelopment Coordinator, Cindy Larson, starts her new on Thursday, June 20. Our new Transportation Planner, Mark Nolan, starts his new job on Wednesday, June 19. Our newest Paramedic/Firefighter, Andrew Slama, began his new job June 10.

School Liaison Officer Aaron White received a commendation from Edina Public Schools for his exceptional work in the schools over the past year.

Brittany Salvate officially completed the dispatch training program on May 31 -- 13 weeks ahead of schedule!

Officer Brian Hubbard teaches DARE to 5th graders at Our Lady of Grace. He recently graduated more than 80 children from the program.

Finally, management staff have reached a tentative agreement with the union representing our 9-1-1 Dispatchers. We are putting the final details of the deal together to enable the union members to vote over the next couple of weeks. If the union members approve the contract offer, we will bring it to the Council for final approval.

- 5. Project Updates** – The Xerxes Avenue Bridge over Interstate Highway 494 (I-494) is scheduled to reopen today. The old bridge was removed last August, when the 1960 bridge was removed and a new bridge was constructed. The new bridge has better clearance for vehicles on I-494 as well as more room on the deck for pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicles. Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) contractors continue to work on segments of I-494 to improve the flow of traffic.
- Blake Road through Edina is experiencing heavy congestion during the afternoon rush hour. This is due to U.S. Highway 169 being reduced to one lane from Minnesota Highway 62 to Minnesota Highway 7 for bridge maintenance. MnDOT anticipates this work to last one month.
- Staff has made contact with almost all of the residents along the north and west side of School Road where we are planning to construct a sidewalk. The contacted residents do not oppose the sidewalk in the proposed location, so staff will send a notice to the remainder of the residents asking for their input. Staff will likely ask the City Council to award the project at its July 16 meeting.
- 6. Golf Numbers** – It should not surprise anyone that it has been a tough year (so far) for our golf enterprise. The number of rounds sold is down 44 percent from this time last year. Year-over-year revenues are down 45 percent (\$564,851) from 2012.
- 7. Traffic Citation Numbers** – The Police Department issued 1,024 speeding citations during the month of April. On local streets, the average citation was written for 16 mph over the posted speed limit. For highways, the average was 17 mph over the posted limit. Officers gave 68 written warnings for the April “Focus In” campaign.
- 8. Pentagon Park** – The Metropolitan Council’s Community Development Committee has recommended a second Tax Base Revitalization Account (TBRA) grant for the Pentagon Park redevelopment project. The recommended award is \$535,000 to assist Hillcrest Development with its asbestos remediation in the second phase of the project. The committee’s recommendation will be considered by the full Metropolitan Council at its June 26 meeting.
- 9. Aquatic Center** – The Aquatic Center opened June 8. Despite the cool and rainy weather, Season Pass sales have been strong and families are very excited to start spending time at the pool. Many people took advantage of the early Season Pass pick-up (June 3-7) and were pleased to have their cards in hand for opening day. Staff have been trained, lounge chairs are in place and the Flowrider is ready to ride! The new boiler for the main pool has been installed and is working beautifully. We have had a variety of problems with leaking in the main pool and continue to troubleshoot and repair them as they occur.
- 10. Public Facility WiFi** – The I.T. Division has continued its work to expand our public WiFi system in the City’s various public facilities. We are excited to announce that we have added WiFi to the following locations: Fire Station No. 1, Fire Station No. 2, Arneson Acres Greenhouse, Arneson Acres Terrace Room and the Aquatic Center.
- 11. Pay Equity Compliance** – The City has received official notice from the State’s Office of Management and Budget that we have successfully met the requirements of the Local Government Pay Equity Act M.S. 471.991- 471.999 and

Minnesota rules Chapter 3920. This is the official verification that our new pay plan has been judged by the State to be in compliance with its pay equity and comparable worth requirements.

**12. City Council Meeting Schedule** – Just a reminder that we will have a special meeting of the City Council on Tuesday, June 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Council Chambers to meet with our aviation counsel. We do not have a Council meeting on July 1. Our only scheduled Council meeting in July is Tuesday, July 16.